Thursday, January 19, 2012

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NUGGETS TOP SIXERS IN OT {page 12}

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RICARD LARMA/METRO

Dark clouds of rancor at city fire department

Report critical of PFD's work environment, especially for paramedics Toxic culture blamed for medical response times well below national standards {page 02}

▶ The head of Local 22, the firefighters and paramedics union, says "morale is at an all-time low." They've been working three years without a contract.

News

Americans: Anti-piracy bill SOPAthetic

Websites go dark in protest of Stop Online Piracy Act and PROTECT IP Act Is it all just a publicity stunt? {page 04}

9/11 quote is off the Wahlberg

Marky Mark says he could have prevented terror attacks? Really? {page 06}

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A paramedic problem

Fire department has burning issue on its hands: Paramedics want more respect Report says PFD's medical work force not getting to emergencies quick enough

A scathing report released yesterday rebuked the Philadelphia Fire Department's culture, which it said caused paramedics to quickly hit a career ceiling and feel unappreciated and firefighters to undervalue calls for medical emergencies compared to fire calls.

According to the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority report, the toxic environment has led to a medical emergency response time well below national standards. The national standard is responding within five minutes 90 percent of the time.

The PFD responds within five minutes just 44.8 percent of the time.

The city's top public safety official Everett Gillison said the standard is an ideal most large cities do not achieve and that the administration has been aware of and working on the majority of the concerns raised.

"We are a safe city," Gillison said. "We've had the lowest number of fire deaths in Philadelphia history [the last three years]."

Commissioner Lloyd Ayers added that the departmental culture for paramedics is changing.

"For a long time, it was hard to hire paramedics in the city," he said. "We've cut some of those limitations and hired nearly 40 paramedics in the last six months."

Part of the response time problem, Gillison said, is callers needlessly dialing 911, which slows everything down.

"Seventy percent of the calls we respond to are not emergencies," he said. "People are using a very sophisticated system to do some stupid things."

He said he would not be opposed to tracking down and fining people who abuse 911.

Possible changes

Here is a short list of recommended changes from the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority's nearly 300-page report:

1. There should be **cross-training of paramedics and firefighters.**
2. The fire department should **charge fees or fines when they respond to incidents that are not core services or are disproportionately costly.** This includes auto accidents, emergency responses, special event support and inspections.
3. The department should **monitor response times to both fire and medical emergency calls** and hold specific engine and ladder companies responsible if the two differ.

BIKARD LABMA/METRO

▶ The Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority released a scathing report yesterday on the PFD's "toxic environment."

But Local 22 President Bill Gault said that the problems all boiled down to manpower.

"We can't keep asking people to do more with less. There's going to be a breaking point and I think we're coming very close to that breaking point. The problem is, in our business, people die."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Quoted

"Now that it's on the table, we're going to take it apart and the parts we can implement, we're going to do it."
LLOYD AYERS, COMMISSIONER

Quoted

"Right now, morale is at an all-time low in the Philadelphia Fire Department. We're being worked to death."
BILL GAULT, LOCAL 22 PRESIDENT

In the news

$20K

Increased reward for information leading to the killers of Kevin Kless in Old City Saturday. The Citizens Crime Commission put up $5,000 to match the FOP's $5,000 and accompany the city's $10,000. METRO

In the news

Fan bail raised
Flyers fan Dennis Veteri, charged with beating up two Rangers fans, one an Iraq War veteran, outside Geno's earlier this month after the Winter Classic, saw his bail increased from $100,000 to $400,000 yesterday. The 32-year-old Glassboro, N.J., man is charged with aggravated assault for an attack caught on video.

Casinos see jump in 2011 revenue, now hitting $3B

PENNSYLVANIA. The state's 10 casinos closed 2011 with gross revenue nearly 22 percent higher than in 2010, state officials said yesterday.

The Gaming Control Board said that the total combined gaming revenue from slot machines and table games generated in 2011 topped $3 billion for the first time, up from $2.4 billion in 2010.

$129M Increase in tax revenue to state in 2011. The state received $1.4 billion in casino tax revenue for the year.

The total comes after the casinos raked in $55.8 million in revenue last month, the board said. METRO/MC

BIKARD LABMA/METRO

▶ SugarHouse casino

Sweeten faces up to decade in jail for fraud

PHILADELPHIA. A federal judge ruled that Bonnie Sweeten, the Feasterville woman who called 911 to report a fake carjacking and took her daughter to Disney World, stole more than $1 million before her nationally notorious misadventure, according to reports.

The amount raises her possible sentence to up to 10 years in prison, much longer than if she had stolen less than $1 million, as her attorney argued. METRO/AW

8.5 Minimum sentence in years Sweeten could receive under federal guidelines. The maximum sentence would be 10 years.

Dentist pulled more than teeth, allegedly stole $5M

PHOTOS BY RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Rogal, left, allegedly ran an insurance scam out of his center at 12th and Lombard streets, with help from his daughter.

Owner of Center City pain center allegedly defrauded insurance companies Daughter also charged

A Center City dentist and his daughter have been charged with trying to bilk insurance companies out of $5 million, District Attorney Seth Williams announced yesterday.

Dr. Owen Rogal, 71, and Kim Rogal, 50, operated The Pain Center at 12th and Lombard streets, which treats patients for severe and chronic pain. Authorities claim that between 2002 and 2011, the Rogals attempted to defraud 15 insurance companies by falsely billing them for complex medical procedures that the center did not perform. The charges came as the result of a 15-month grand jury investigation.

Police arrested the two yesterday and charged them with one count of corrupt organizations, one count of criminal conspiracy, 15 counts of insurance fraud, 12 counts of theft by deception and 10 counts of attempted theft by deception.

"The reasons the grand jury found that the Rogals billed for this was that it made more money," said Assistant District Attorney Vicki Markovitz, who's prosecuting the case.

"The bigger picture is that medical billing fraud actually ends up costing everybody ... in higher premiums."
MARKOVITZ

"The bigger picture is that medical billing fraud actually ends up costing everybody ... in higher premiums."

Of the more than $5 million billed to insurance companies, the suspects received more than $1 million, Markovitz said. If convicted, both face up to 317 years in prison.

Prosecutors said the investigation is ongoing, and more charges could be filed.

SOLOMON D. LEACH
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Finance. Bank profits

▶ The Pittsburgh-based regional bank's net income fell to $493 million, or 85 cents per share, from $820 million, or $1.50 per share, a year earlier.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

PNC Financial Services Group posted a low fourth-quarter profit, but said it continued to improve credit quality as it set aside less money for bad loans. Revenue fell to $3.5 billion from $3.9 billion. Provisions to cover credit losses declined 27 percent sequentially to $190 million. REUTERS

Few jobs to show for $500 million

Since 2007, Philadelphia's workforce development system has spent nearly $500 million to help job-seekers find work — but the results have been less than stellar, a new report finds.

25%
Welfare recipients in Philadelphia who went through a city job center and found a job

The study from Pew's Philadelphia Research Initiative, released yesterday, shows that city agencies have spent $493 million during the grips of the recession. Yet, just 25 percent of welfare recipients who went through a job center received jobs and 59 percent of job-seekers not on welfare. Both figures are trailing the rest of the state and other urban cities. SOLOMON D. LEACH

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▶ Guantanamo Bay

Al-Qaeda mag sent to Guantanamo

GUANTANAMO BAY U.S. NAVAL BASE, CUBA. A copy of an al Qaeda-linked magazine was delivered to the Guantanamo detention camp for suspected terrorists, a military prosecutor revealed yesterday during a court discussion of mail security.

The camp commander, Rear Admiral David Woods, issued orders last month tightening the screening of mail sent by lawyers to their clients at the camp that holds 171 captives on the Guantanamo Bay U.S. naval base in Cuba. **REUTERS**

Seven charged in Dell scam

NEW YORK. U.S. prosecutors charged seven people, described as a circle of friends who formed a criminal club, with running a $62 million insider trading scheme — the latest salvo in a years-long probe of suspicious trading at hedge funds.

The FBI in New York arrested four people yesterday and authorities announced previously secret charges against three others, making it one of the largest sweeps in the government's investigation. **REUTERS**

Time to lose leap seconds?

GENEVA. Experts have recommended eliminating leap seconds from the time scale used by most computer systems. Governments are split on the issue, to be decided this week, the International Telecommunications Union said. **REUTERS**

Websites go black to protest anti-piracy bill

- Who are the people behind the controversial legislation?
- Unusual bipartisan effort meets fierce fire from regular Americans

The fight against the Stop Online Piracy Act ramped up to a climax yesterday as Internet heavyweights like Wikipedia and Reddit went dark in protest of the controversial anti-piracy bill. But while it's apparent that the tech industry is ready to amass its muscle to prevent the bill's passage, far less attention has been focused on SOPA's supporters. Who are the people who want, in the words of the bill's harshest critics, to shut down the Internet?

The major proponents of SOPA and its Senate Counterpart, the PROTECT IP Act, have been the entertainment industry, who say the bills' controversial measures — most notably giving the government the authority to shut off access to sites copyright holders claim are hosting pirated material — are essential in curbing rampant online piracy. According to a report from advocacy organization Map Light, these companies have donated nearly $2 million to SOPA's 32 congressional sponsors since the beginning of 2009.

Support for SOPA and PIPA in Congress is a bipartisan effort, blurring traditional lines of conservatism and progressivism. Liberal firebrand Al Franken is a fierce proponent of the bill, while former GOP presidential candidate Michele Bachmann has expressed concerns about the government interfering with the Internet.

However, the grassroots campaign against SOPA appears to be chilling congressional enthusiasm. At least six co-sponsors removed their names from the bills yesterday, and many more supporters have softened their tone.

In a joint statement, New York senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, both co-sponsors of PROTECT IP, expressed sympathy with the Internet activists.

"There are two important issues in this debate: continued freedom of expression on the Internet and the ability to block online piracy," the pair wrote. "We believe that both sides can come together on a solution that satisfies their respective concerns."

NATE JONES
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Imagine a World
Without Free Knowledge
For over a decade, we have spent millions of hours building the largest encyclopedia in human history. Right now, the U.S. Congress is considering legislation that could fatally damage the free and open Internet. For 24 hours, to raise awareness, we are blacking out Wikipedia. Learn more.
Contact your representatives.
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Look up
WIKIPEDIA

▶ Wikipedia was one of many websites that went black yesterday in protest.

'Publicity stunt'

Others, meanwhile, were less cowed. Rep. Lamar Smith, SOPA's author, condemned Wikipedia's efforts as a "publicity stunt," while Recording Industry Association of America spokesman Jonathan Lamy minimized the potential effects of the blackout.

"After Wikipedia blackrout [sic], somewhere, a student today is doing original research and getting his/her facts straight." Lamy wrote in a tweet, which he subsequently deleted. "Perish the thought."

Biggest Global Brands: Nokia, Nintendo Slip in 2011

Every year, global branding agency Interbrand releases its ranking of the top 100 most valuable global brands. The rankings are based on a brand's financial performance, its ability to connect with customers, how it's viewed by the public and a variety of other factors. This year the top brand was Coca-Cola — not surprising, given that it's been the top-ranked brand for all 11 years that Interbrand has published the rankings. It was followed by a slew of high-tech companies, including IBM, Microsoft and Google.

But not every company that cracked the top 100 has something to celebrate. The report shows how each brand's value has changed since 2010, and while most saw positive growth (including Apple, whose brand value grew an incredible 58 percent), a few suffered foreboding declines.

Cell-phone maker Nokia found itself a bit left behind by the smartphone revolution, and accordingly saw its brand value drop 15 percent since 2010. Also hitting the skids was Sony which saw its brand damaged in early 2011 by a devastating data breach at its PlayStation Network service. It can at least take some consolation that competitor Nintendo saw its brand decline by 14 percent in 2011 as Wii sales slowed and sales of the portable 3DS system disappointed. **MAINSTREET.COM**

Applications to elite colleges slow

Applications for freshman admission to elite U.S. colleges such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Columbia University are slowing after years of record increases.

The number of students applying to New York-based Columbia fell 8.9 percent to 31,818 for the 2011-2012 year after rising 33 percent last year when the school joined the Common Application. MIT had 1 percent growth, the smallest increase in seven years, while the University of Pennsylvania had a 1.7 percent drop after a 40 percent jump in the past three years combined. **BLOOMBERG**

GET FED

Because sometimes you've only got time to skim the headlines:

- "Oopsies, Mitt Romney Probably Did Not Win Iowa Primary" **WONKETTE.COM**
- "Perry Prays For Obama" **HUFFINGTONPOST.COM**
- "LA Times calls Rick Perry a 'hillbilly'" **HOTAIR.COM**
- "Santorum says the only woman he's ever sat on a couch with is his wife" **WASHINGTONPOST.COM**
- "Unpopular Nationally, Romney Holds Solid GOP Lead" **PEOPLE-PRESS.ORG**
- "Gingrich says he paid 31 percent in taxes in 2010" **YAHOO.COM**
- "Second Place in NH Democratic Primary Goes to...Ron Paul?!" **HUFFINGTONPOST.COM**
- "The economy? It's still Bush's fault" **WASHINGTONPOST.COM**
- "Palin Endorses Newt, Barely" **DAILYBEAST.COM**
- "Latest Ad By Colbert Super-PAC Promises Orgy of Pure Distortion" **NYMAG.COM**

Why R. Money hates America

Welcome to Metropolitik, a new Metro feature designed to bring you, our busy reader, the best election coverage that no money can buy. For complaints, suggestions and offers of male sexual enhancement, please e-mail us at brayden.simms@metro.us.

Yesterday we warned you we were on the lookout for dirt on Republican presidential candidate front-runner Mitt Romney. Then, as if in response to our plea, the Internet heavens opened and dumped the book on Mitt — specifically, the 200-page laundry list of flip-flops, missteps and other general negatives compiled by the 2008 McCain campaign. Hallelujah, Amen.

Between scathing details of Romney's "pro-choice" beliefs, then his switch to "no pro-choice," then back to "pro-choice" again, and finally firmly "pro-life" for now, are some details that will shake the foundations of his presidential campaign, if not the nation.

Take, for instance, the revelation on page 137 that Romney's former employer, Bain Capital — his affiliation with which has already caused Romney a few headaches on the campaign trail over allegations of "vulture capitalism" — "was once dubbed the KGB of consulting." Or the mention, on page 199 under the heading "Awkward Moments," that Romney once described fake basketball team the Harlem Globetrotters as having "trouble making touchdowns."

But it doesn't get much worse than the page 175 revelation that Romney has flipped, of all things, on his choice of favorite film. According to The Book: "Romney once said 'O Brother Where Art Thou' was his favorite movie, now says it is 'Raiders of the Lost Ark.'"

We can see here that Romney is clearly in the pocket of Big Lucas. "Raiders", the first of the Indiana Jones films, is certainly memorable if not for its strong anti-Nazi and face-melting themes. But "O Brother," the Coen brothers' Homerian homage to the deep South, is a quintessentially American film, set in the good old days of transparent racism.

Did Romney just lose South Carolina?

EMMANUEL DUNAND/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Interestingly, both of Romney's allegedly favorite films involve a strong treasure-hunting theme.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

Metropolitik

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POLITICAL REALISM FOR THE URBAN SOPHISTICATE

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Obama just too smart for us

NEW YORK. Newsweek made waves this week with a cover story titled "Why are Obama's critics so dumb?" in which writer Andrew Sullivan described Obama critics on both sides of the aisle as "simply — empirically — wrong."

Well, we don't like being wrong any more than the next guy. As such, we will politely put to bed all of our apparently wrongheaded complaints about Obama, including that he has: institutionalized the secret assassinations of U.S. citizens; prosecuted Bush-era whistleblowers; unilaterally declared war; and empowered the financial industry by placing key bank execs in places of high government power.

Gee, ignorance really *is* bliss.

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myentertainment

THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

– Dorothy Robinson will return tomorrow.

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Jimmy Fallon is bad at surprises, Sarah Silverman is saddened by the state of the world, Paris Hilton is singing again and Steve Martin knows what Twitter is really for.

@jimmyfallon
Texted a friend: "What time's Dennis' surprise party?" Dennis texted back: "Guess it's just a party now."

@sarahksilverman
Jesus would be bummed about the Vatican being all filled w riches that could feed the world (but doesn't)

@ParisHilton
In the studio working on new music. Love being creative.

@SteveMartinToGo
My vow: if I can't think up anything interesting to say, I will say it on Twitter.

Fallon

Mark Wahlberg could have helped prevent 9/11?

It looks like **Mark Wahlberg** has spent a little too much time talking tough on movie sets. In an interview with Men's Journal, the actor claims that if he had been onboard a hijacked plane on September 11, 2011, things would have ended differently.

(Before we get started, some fun facts about Mark Wahlberg: He's 5'8" and doesn't have a pilot's license.)

"If I was on that plane with my kids, it wouldn't have went down like it did," says the actor, who had purchased a ticket for one of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center but changed his travel plans. "There would have been a lot of blood in that first-class cabin and then me saying, 'OK, we're going to land somewhere safely, don't worry.'"

Oh, Mark. In the real world, saying heroic things in a Southie Boston accent doesn't magically kill the bad guys.

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Wahlberg later apologized for his comments, saying, "To suggest I would have done anything differently than the passengers on that plane was irresponsible."

Depp's relationship over

Now that he's officially played too many freaks and geeks to be attractive, **Johnny Depp** is about to be single and back on U.S. soil. His relationship with French singer **Vanessa Paradis** is "all but officially finished," sources tell People magazine. Others claim the pair have already split after spending 13 years together.

Oh, who are we kidding: We can work with Captain Jack's eyeliner if he promises to keep the Wonka wig in the drawer.

Today in Lohan legal trouble

Lindsay Lohan is looking at more legal trouble. **Thomas Green**, a former Marine, wants $300,000 for "unfair business practices," claiming that Lohan led him to believe she'd help him with an online business. He alleges she is, in fact, a high-end prostitute, reports TMZ.

Something we don't know, Tom. Something we don't know.

Talking points

Rihanna and Chris Brown back together?

It's been nearly three years since **Chris Brown**'s infamous assault of girlfriend **Rihanna**. But after court dates and restraining orders, the two allegedly have been getting together on the sly, according to Us Weekly. Brown and Rihanna "meet up very casually," a source says. "She comes to see him anytime she's in L.A. They can't get enough of each other. I don't see it ending well." So what's the draw of a loose-cannon ex-boyfriend? "Rihanna loves to live dangerously, and talking to and hooking up with Chris is all part of that," says another source.

Beyonce gushes about Blue Ivy

Beyonce Knowles is at a loss for words when it comes to new daughter **Blue Ivy Carter**. "Nothing can describe the feeling," she says in her first post-birth interview, with Star magazine. "You have the instant connection once you know your child is growing inside you. But when you hold it for the first time, the words can't be found." As for husband **Jay-Z**, Beyonce confirms he was on hand for the delivery. "He would not have missed it for anything," Beyonce says. "He is a very protective and loyal guy by nature." Unfortunately, not everybody's feeling the love: Beyonce's rep says the interview is "completely made up."

Williams

Michelle Williams almost quit

Michelle Williams admits that going back to work after the death of ex-boyfriend **Heath Ledger** was nearly the end of her career. "It was horrible. I don't remember most of it," the "My Week with Marilyn" star tells GQ magazine. After making her first two films after the tragedy — "Mammoth" and "Shutter Island" — Williams considered retiring from acting. "That seemed like a really smart idea," the recent Golden Globe winner says.

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Checking in with stars around the world

1. A blonde **Rachel McAdams** was in London yesterday.

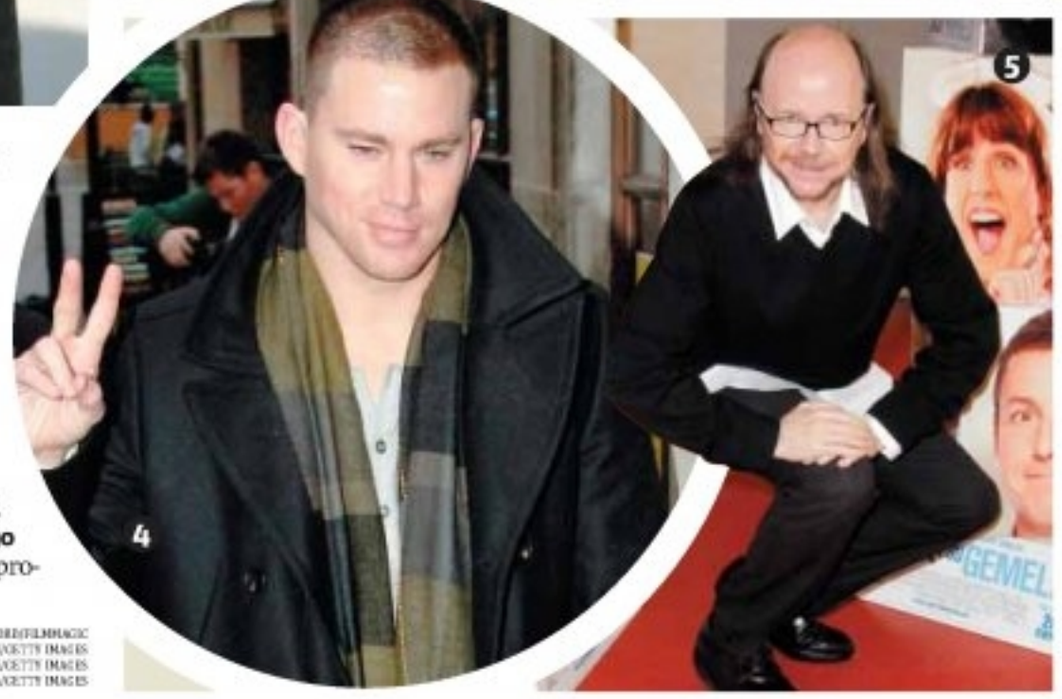
2. There were no age limits in place at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Berlin yesterday. And no spell-checkers.

3. PJ Harvey played a spooky set in Sydney yesterday.

4. Channing Tatum and his impossibly square jaw flashed a peace sign in London yesterday.

5. Poor Spain! Not only has "Jack and Jill" hit its unsuspecting shores, but Adam Sandler didn't even stop by. Yesterday, actor **Santiago Segura** was on hand to promote the film instead.

1, 4: KEVIN MAZUR/FILMMAGIC
2: ADAM BERRY/GETTY IMAGES
3: MARK METCALFE/GETTY IMAGES
5: EDUARDO PARRA/GETTY IMAGES



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GETTY IMAGES

Queen of the choir

Queen Latifah preaches through song in 'Joyful Noise' 'It was important that I show up for this film because I felt like I was representing so many of my family members,' she says What makes her emotional

Even Queen Latifah gets star-struck sometimes. Take her thoughts on sharing the screen with Dolly Parton in their new movie-musical, "Joyful Noise."

"I still sometimes have to really stop and pinch myself and say, 'That's Dolly Parton! I know her!'"

Latifah, 41, stars in the film as Vi Rose Hill, a choir director who isn't eager to slip some modern touches into her singers' traditional songs and performance style. For the acting, singing and rapping triple threat, the role resonated.

"My aunt was a choir director [and] my mom directs the choir at my little church in Jersey," she says. "I've just grown up going to church and to me, the music connected with me more as a little kid than the preaching did. It was important that I show up for this film because I felt like I was representing so many of my family members, and just this whole idea of a gospel choir trying to make it through their battles. It was a story that I hadn't really seen told in this way and I wanted to be part of making it happen. And then I found out Dolly was down with the project — I was just over the moon about it."

"I still sometimes have to really stop and pinch myself and say, 'That's Dolly Parton! I know her!'" QUEEN LATIFAH

Latifah knows the pressures of a make-it-or-break-it performance, the kind her character's choir has in the film. She had a similar experience with one of her first shows.

"Probably the first real at-stake performance for me was at the Apollo Theater," she says. "If you didn't rock it you got booed off the stage and that's a lot of pressure — the thought of getting booed and everybody in New York City knowing what happened. I remember the turntables went dead for a second so I had to freestyle and I just started rocking, and thank God I made it through."

"Joyful Noise" gives Latifah the opportunity to combine her loves for acting and singing, and she says for her, the two go hand in hand.

"When I was taking acting lessons, there were books I was reading — you know, 'You could think about this if you had to cry.' [But] I could just throw a song on my iPod that moves me. It gets me there. I don't have to go into who died in my family or 'What if I never have children?' It could be just a few notes and I'm there. Music has had a profound effect on my acting."

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

On-screen music

With acting and singing coexisting across platforms today, we wanted to see if Latifah thinks musicals are having a moment.

"The return of the musical and the return of dancing has really helped everything," she says. "You have shows like 'Glee,' 'So You Think You Can Dance' bringing all those elements of performing — acting, singing, dancing — together again and making it a lot easier for it to all sprout so that people get to show their gifts in different ways."

TV watch list

FOX

'Unsupervised'

COMEDY. The gang from "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" brings its absurd humor to high school in this animated comedy about two good-hearted but inept teen boys (voiced by Justin Long and "Sunny" star David Hornsby) with absent parents. **Series premiere, 10:30 p.m., FX**

'Project Runway All Stars'

REALITY. The designers meet a guest judge who may be one of their most difficult: Miss Piggy. Forget the diva attitude — what doesn't clash with pink felt? **9 p.m., Lifetime**

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D. Allen • Rosenbaum Client

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10 REASONS TO GET TO THE MOVIE THEATER THIS WEEKEND

Must-see

▶ We never pass up an opportunity to put Michael Fassbender in the paper. He co-stars with mixed-martial arts master Gina Carano in "Haywire."

1 'Haywire'
Though he's known for occasionally producing headier fare, Steven Soderbergh knocks out one heck of an action film when he wants to. This time, he places mixed-martial arts fighter Gina Carano in the center of an international assassination plot in which she, the contract killer, becomes the scapegoat for the crime.

2 'Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close'
This 9/11 weeper won't leave many a eye dry with "The Reader" director Stephen Daldry at the helm.

3 'Red Tails'
The Tuskegee airmen — the first African-American troop of fighter pilots in World War II — haven't had their due feature film treatment until now.

4 'Underworld: Awakening'
Kate Beckinsale reprises her role as lethal vampire queen Selene, hell-bent on fighting off the evil mortals.

5 'Contraband'
A reformed bad boy gets pulled back into the world of smuggling after his brother-in-law gets caught up with a sinister drug dealer.

6 'The Iron Lady'
Meryl Streep's turn as one of Britain's most controversial prime ministers, Margaret Thatcher, is predictably admirable. The Golden Globe crew thought so, too!

7 'Beauty and the Beast' 3-D
After the success of converting "The Lion King" to 3-D, another animated classic from Disney is getting refreshed.

8 'Joyful Noise'
Two choir members (Dolly Parton and Queen Latifah) have differing opinions on how they can get their group to a national competition.

9 'War Horse'
Spielberg takes on the book and play by the same name, in which a very young WWI soldier gets separated from his closest friend, his horse Joey.

10 'The Adventures of Tintin'
The much-beloved Belgian comic book character gets the 3-D animation treatment.

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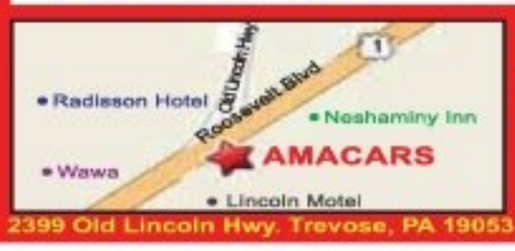

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- ***our love was ment to be i love you babii!! - cindi***
- *P. Henderson, Crazy in love, one love. Luv MelC.*
- ***Joseph - Love you with all my heart bianca always and 4ever 9-16-07***
- *BrianM u r the jelly 2 my peanut butter xoJ*
- ***My ChocolatePeanutButterCup, life has been so much sweeter since we've been together - xoxo SJM***
- *wayne - so excited 2 b ur wife this yr! xo, beck*
- ***Noel, You are my best friend and love of my life. "You and me just us two." Baby'sh***

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How do you keep your romance out of a rut?

Ditch the sweatpants and take-out for the sake of keeping your relationship spicy Date night's a must

Shrink Wrap

DR. JANE GREER

HEALTH.METRO.US

Many things can be said about Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, but one thing is for sure: They are not in a rut. How do they keep their romance exciting when it is easy, in a committed relationship, to settle into the mundane? To tell the truth, it isn't so hard — but it does require a little effort.

The reason so many couples do start to feel stuck in a boring routine is because there is a strong force that pulls them toward their comfort zone. This could mean staying in on a weekend night, wearing your sweatpants around the house, eating at the same restaurant repeatedly or going to a different restaurant but still ordering the same old dish. Keep in mind that the ingredient that keeps a relationship feeling fresh is change itself, because that is what brings in the new. But most people resist change since it is daunting and can make them feel anxious.

You have to find the balance between the ease of the familiar and the adventure of the unknown. You want to be able to be yourself, but you want to keep your relationship vital. In order to do that, challenge yourself to try new activities and go to new places. It's fine to have a movie night at home in your pajamas as long as you even it out with a date night that you can both look forward to. Plan at least one occasion in the week where you take the time to look and dress special so that you feel great. That will add to your being excited and looking forward to your time together. In addition to the experiences, you'll have the fun of sharing and rehashing the memories they create.

An open package of bread left unattended can quickly go stale. Make sure to keep your love life frisky by giving it the attention it deserves. Brad and Angelina do it — you can, too.

— Relationship expert ***Dr. Jane Greer*** *is creator of* ***"Shrink Wrap"*** *– national commentary on what we can learn from celebrity relationships – and host of* ***"Let's Talk Sex"*** *at* ***Healthylife.net.*** *Her book,* ***"What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship,"*** *is available nationwide.*

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▶ Don't these two look happy?

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Letters

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Super PACs used by Democrats as well!

RE: "WHEN SUPER PACS ATTACK": This article makes it seem that the Republicans invented a new form of political spending. There is no mention of the $9 million spent by the Service Employees International Union in 2008 in support of Obama's election. And also $1 million spent by the Goldman Sachs PAC? (That paid off well.) And then there was Moveon.org, NARAL, the United Food & Commercial Workers International. In total, the 2008 Obama PACs spent $750 million. This is all out of control.

DOUGLAS HAAS, PROSPECT PARK

Gingrich wants to go back in time

Newt Gingrich says: "You could ... hire 30-some kids to work in the school for the price of one janitor, and those 30 kids would be a lot less likely to drop out." Although clearly the smartest of the GOP candidates, Gingrich lacks familiarity with child-labor laws, the human compassion that is their basis and the street smarts to know that many urban-poor kids drop out to deal drugs and make far more money. He obviously wants us to return to the Triangle Shirt Factory: slave labor, no minimum wage, working 14 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year; that is, no government regulation over the lords-and-commoners "market." This sentiment typifies Republicans and exemplifies why no Republican should ever hold public office at any level of any government.

J. ANDREW SMITH, VIA E-MAIL

"I'll take the one who has kept his campaign promises."

RE: "WE HAVE ONE PARTY: IT'S CALLED BIG MONEY": Exactly how does reading from a teleprompter invalidate either President Obama or Mr. Romney as candidates? Does Ms. Donnoe expect them to memorize long, detailed speeches? As for sincerity, I'll take the one who has kept his campaign promises (the incumbent) over the serial liar and career failure (the GOP challenger) every time.

JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA E-MAIL

When are we going to get really angry?

When will we get really angry about our government killing innocent people for oil and crushing rogue banks that don't answer to the New World Order's IMF and World Bank? I'm ashamed to be an American, because it has taken so long for us to rise up in anger about these crimes against all humanity.

CHARLES MICHAEL COUCH, VIA E-MAIL

Federal government should run economy

RE: "LET THE STATES TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES": The Constitution gave the federal government the job of regulating commerce. "Commerce" was their word for the economy; in the 1700s they did not use the word "economics" the way we do. The industrial revolution caused huge growth in our economy. We became a modern industrial state in a global economy with more to regulate. 50 state-based regulations on everything would cause chaos for businesses. (Corporations already play one state off against another.) No other nation would accept the limited interpretation of self-rule suggested in Tom Pugnetti's letter.

HARRY THORN, PHILADELPHIA

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Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** It doesn't look like old accounts will be squared up. Unfortunately, others do not show you the same consideration that you've shown them.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** There's a possibility that you could talk to the wrong person and reveal something meant to be confidential. Something that should be kept secret could come out.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Honestly examine your motives about your poor behavior toward a friend. If you're treating him or her badly because of envy, you need to clean up your act fast.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** A failure to take a firm stance on an important issue could prove to be unforgivable to those who need your support. Trying to stay out of it makes you look like a traitor.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** If helpmates do not live up to your expectations, the fault might not be entirely theirs. It could be due in most part to the faulty instructions you gave them.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Unless you've learned from past experiences to keep your guard up, you're destined to suffer the same unpleasant results again from someone with a smooth tongue and low motives.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Because neither you nor your mate are likely to be at your best when it comes to making a major decision, it would be smart to wait until at least one of you has your head on straight.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Unless you plan the logistics of your day, you could end up spending a lot of time being very busy but accomplishing nothing. Avoid the wasted effort.

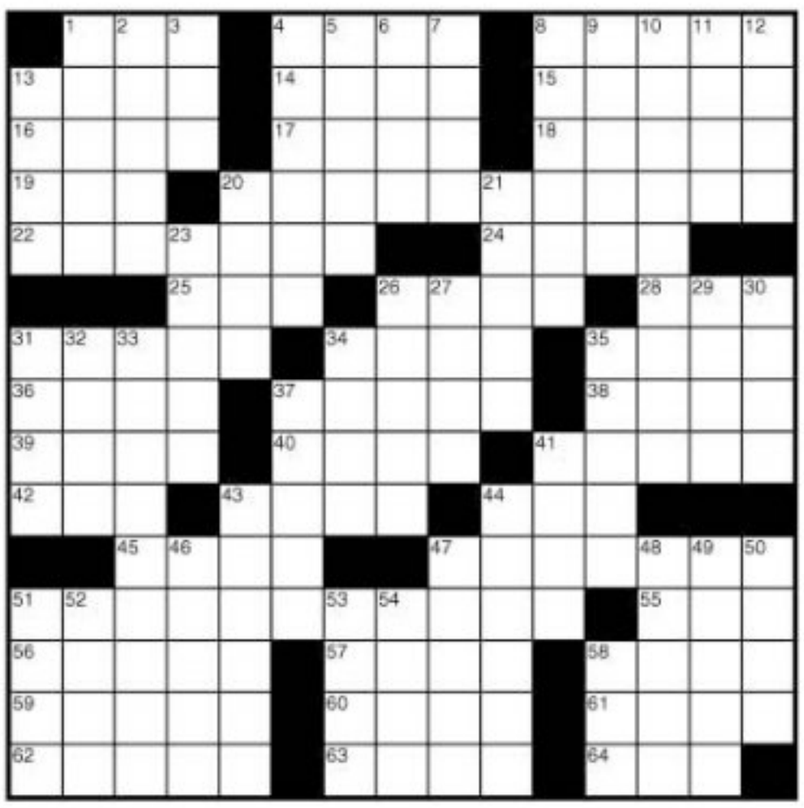
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** This is one of those rare days when you could be too much of a risk-taker for your own good. If you go in where the odds are stacked against you, don't expect to be bailed out.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Your chart indicates that this could be one of those days when you simply can't believe in yourself and, as a result, have a tendency to throw in the towel just when victory is in sight.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Unless you find a balance in situations where you should be bold, you'll be unduly cautious. Conversely, when you should be wary, you'll end up being far too reckless.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** If buying some special merchandise, don't permit your desires to exceed your means and cause you to spend beyond your price. You might end up much wiser, but sadder as well.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL



Across
1 Wedding rental
4 Businessman's offer
8 Say a few words
13 Damsel
14 Toward shelter
15 Faint trace
16 Chocolate-colored dogs
17 Sand, silt and clay
18 River mammal
19 Keogh relative
20 Edible blossom
22 Stopgap solution (hyph.)
24 "Aurora" painter
25 Pitches
26 Air show formations
28 Toshiba rival
31 Spears, as a fish
34 Neatened the bed
35 Sphinx locale
36 EEC currency
37 Like many patios
38 __ __ for keeps
39 Beyond question
40 Norse Zeus
41 Myopic cartoon Mr.
42 Airline to Stockholm
43 Oklahoma town
44 Book-signing need
45 City transport
47 Spotted
51 Plant growth medium
55 Wide st.
56 Become accustomed
57 Appealing
58 Bwana's expedition
59 Championship
60 Mortgage, e.g.
61 Hideous monster
62 Warrior's horse
63 Type of prof.
64 Slinky or yo-yo

Down
1 Princess topper
2 Kind of renewal
3 Roomy T's
4 Port opposite Dover
5 So all can hear
6 Not bogus
7 Half, in combos
8 Elegant wraps
9 Climber's aid
10 Curling around
11 Screenwriter James __
12 "The Galloping Gourmet"
13 Slick
20 Bounders
21 Turned loose
23 Actor Willem __
26 Legally binding
27 Perfect place
29 Opera's __ Pinza
30 "Elder" statesman
31 Fetches
32 Mystique
33 Stymie
34 Hemline length
35 Goliath, e.g.
37 Quinine water
41 Dole out
43 Left the freeway
44 Very strong
46 Sufficient
47 Tiny arachnids
48 "Key __" (Bogart classic)
49 All
50 Hockey feint
51 Brewery tanks
52 Revise text
53 Bruins' sch.
54 San __ Obispo
58 Moppet

1					7	8	4	5
							3	
	8					1		9
6				3		4		
7	5		4		9		1	2
		8		2				3
3		9					2	
	4							
5	6	2	1					7

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

		8					4	6
1				4		8		
				1	2			7
		7	1		5			
	6	1	4		7	2	9	
			6		8	5		
7			2	5				
		6		8				2
8	4					7		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

B	E	A	D	■	L	E	A	K	S	■	W	O	L	F
O	S	L	O	■	E	G	R	E	T	■	O	P	A	L
S	T	O	W	■	V	A	N	N	A	■	M	I	N	I
H	A	U	N	T	E	D	■	O	F	F	B	E	A	T
■	■	■	F	E	E	■	■	F	L	A	■	■	■	■
R	I	V	A	L	■	F	A	Q	■	E	T	H	E	L
E	R	A	L	■	N	A	T	U	R	E	■	A	N	A
F	E	L	L	O	W	C	R	E	A	T	U	R	E	S
I	N	V	■	A	T	T	I	R	E	■	L	U	R	E
T	E	E	N	S	■	S	A	Y	■	H	U	M	O	R
■	■	■	E	E	K	■	■	■	V	O	L	■	■	■
B	E	M	U	S	E	D	■	P	I	C	A	S	S	O
R	E	A	R	■	V	O	T	E	D	■	T	U	N	G
E	L	M	O	■	I	M	A	G	E	■	E	L	I	E
A	S	A	N	■	N	O	T	S	O	■	D	U	P	E

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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GOT AN OPINION? SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS

Miller time: Sixers can't stop Nuggets

- Denver guard torches old team
- Suffer first home loss of season
- But still lead Atlantic Division

When the Sixers allowed Andre Miller to walk in free agency following the 2008-09 season, they officially turned to a youth movement. For one night, that decision came back to haunt them.

Miller torched the Sixers for 28 points and 10 assists last night, handing the Sixers' their first home loss this season, 108-104 in overtime.

"Andre Miller, he was fabulous," Sixers coach Doug Collins said. "I'm not sure I've ever seen him play better than that. He's so smart. He plays at a pace that is a great, great pace. He's deceptively quick, but he's never going fast."

Andre Iguodala had a chance to give the Sixers a one-point lead with four seconds remaining in regulation, but he converted just 1-of-2 free throws to tie the game at 96-96. Iguodala then took the brunt of Miller's shot-making on the defensive end.

"I think we did a great job. it's just a matter of finishing the game," said forward Thaddeus Young, who scored a team-high 22 points.

Sophomore guard Evan Turner chipped in 20 points off the bench, while Elton Brand added 16.

The Sixers are still on top of the Atlantic Division at 10-4, but are just 1-3 against teams with winning records.

ON TV TOMORROW

Hawks at Sixers, 7 p.m. (CSN)

ADAM LEVITAN
alevitan@metro.us

3 things we saw

1. **TURNING POINT.** Evan Turner found a new role: Go-to guy in crunch time. The second-year slasher scored 11 points in the fourth quarter and overtime, calling for the ball in key moments.
2. **NO LOU.** Thanks to Turner's outburst, Lou Williams found himself on the bench for the majority of the fourth and overtime. The Sixers need to get their best shot-creator on the floor in winning time.
3. **HOBBLED HAWES.** Spencer Hawes missed another game, this time due to a strained Achilles. He hurt it compensating for his balky back. The Sixers clearly missed their hot center, as rookie Nikola Vucevic drew the start but played just 12 minutes.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Evan Turner returned to the lineup last night after missing the Sixers' last game with a sore quad muscle.

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Fantasy NBA pickups

Depth charts are changing quickly as coaches move on from ineffective players.

1 Kemba Walker, SG, CHA — The Bobcats are going small and young, giving the explosive Walker 35-plus minutes per night. He's got a green light to fire at will.

2 James Johnson, SF, TOR — The defensive dynamo is pushing hard for the starting gig. An average of 1.5 blocks and 1.5 steals is realistic.

3 Daniel Gibson, SG, CLE — One of the best pure 3-point shooters in the game is now the starter. A real threat to make two treys per night.

PLAYOFF CLUES TO REMEMBER

This is going to be the last look we get at live NFL action for the next seven months. Make it last.

The playoffs are a great tool we can use to see who coaches and quarterbacks really trust.

For example, the chatter that **Victor Cruz** is actually a better receiver than **Hakeem Nicks** has quickly been squashed. Cruz is a very, very nice player. But as Nicks as shown in the last two weeks, he is a physical specimen with a better long-term outlook.

BenJarvus Green-Ellis doesn't fumble, so he continues to play ahead of the more promising youngster, **Stevan Ridley**.

The Falcons blamed a lot of their running game failure on **Michael Turner** and are talking up the screen game for next season. The stone-handed Turner is going to see a drastic reduction in touches next year.

▶ Nicks has 280 yards and two scores in the playoffs.

Arian Foster continued to prove he is matchup-proof. He was the best player on the field last week despite going against the Ravens' elite run defense.

ADAM LEVITAN
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Health Care Coordinator

Salary $63,926-$82,194 per year. New employees may be appointed at any step in the pay range depending on qualifications.
Close Date 01/20/2012
General Definition This is managerial level health care coordination work planning, developing, reviewing, evaluating and coordinating the provision of health care services to patients in a district health center, or by contracted agencies to inmates in the City's correctional system. Employees in this class develop, implement and monitor policies, practices, standards and procedures and ensure the delivery of appropriate health services. Employees coordinate the daily operations and activities of a multi-disciplinary health services staff including medical, dental, nursing, technical, clerical and social services staff to ensure the efficient flow and quality of health services to patients, or supervise nursing and technical staff in the monitoring of inmate medical treatment plans to resolve problems and insure compliance with service standards. Coordination of health services with ambulatory specialty, and in-patient care staff at associated hospitals and contracted health service agencies and supervision of nursing and technical staff are significant aspects of the work. Work is performed under the general direction of an administrative superior.

Minimum Requirements

Minimum Training, Education & Experience The following statements represent the minimum training and experience standards which will be used to admit or reject applicants for tests. Candidates must meet requirements within 30 days after the last date for filing applications.

1. EDUCATION
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2. GENERAL EXPERIENCE
Two years of experience as a registered nurse in a hospital or ambulatory healthcare setting;
AND
3. SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE
Two years of supervisory nursing experience in a hospital or ambulatory health care setting for positions in a Health Center; OR
Two years supervising a small nursing service in a correctional institution for the position working in the Prison System.
Physical & Medical Requirements Ability to physically perform the duties and to work in the environmental conditions required of a position in this class.
Required Licenses & Certifications Possession of a license as a Registered Nurse by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing prior to appointment.

Application Details

Application Procedures The City of Philadelphia is an Equal Opportunity Employer
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Only an on-line application will be accepted for this exam. Paper applications will not be accepted.

Computers are available at the Employment Application Center on the Concourse Level of the Municipal Services Building, 1401 J. F. Kennedy Boulevard in Center City Philadelphia, Monday through Friday, 12:00 PM (Noon) to 4:00 PM, and at your local Philadelphia Free Library branch.

ALL Applications must be received by the end of business on January 20, 2012.

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2) Attempt to practice fraud or deception in the preparation of this application

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On January 10, 2012, an application was filed with the Federal Communications Commission to assign the license of Class A station WTSD-CA, channel 14, Philadelphia, PA from Loop Media, LLC to Local Media TV Philadelphia, LLC.
Loop Media is owned 50% by Paul Koplin and 50% by Lawrence Rogow.
Local Media TV New York, LLC is owned by Local Media TV Holdings, LLC, which in turn is owned Loop Partners V Holdings, LLC, Telecom Local Media LLC and Loop Media LLC. The members of Loop Partners V Holdings LLC are Loop Partners V, Inc. Columbia Capital V, LLC and Columbia Capital Equity Partners V (QP), L.P. The shareholders of Loop Partners V, Inc. are Columbia Capital Equity Partners V (VON-US), L.P. and Columbia Capital Equity Partners V (Co-Invest, L.P.). The general partner of these shareholders together with Columbia Capital Equity Partners V (QP), L.P., is Columbia Capital Equity Partners V, L.P., whose general partner is Columbia Capital V, LLC. Telecom Local Media LLC is wholly owned by Telecom Ventures LLC. Loop Media LLC is owned by Paul Koplin and Lawrence Rogow. The officers, directors, managing directors, limited partners, shareholders and/or members of one or more of these entities are: Paul Koplin, Lawrence Rogow, Monish Kundra, Donald A. Doering, James B. Fleming, Jr., John T. Siegel, Jr. Harry F. Hopper, III, Arun K. Gupta, Harry F. Hopper Descendants 2001 Trust, Jeffrey H. Patterson, Matthew C. Newton, Patrick B. Hendy, R. Philip Herget, III, R. Philip Herget, III Revocable Trust, Rajendra Singh, Serge Martin, Margaret Keast, Neera Singh, The Hersh Raj Singh Educational Trust, and The Samir Raj Singh Education Trust.
Copies of the application and related material are available for public inspection at 6819 Greene Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119.

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Eagles looking at Edwards as Vick's backup

GETTY IMAGES

The Vince Young experiment appears to be over.

The Eagles reportedly worked out veteran quarterback Trent Edwards earlier this week. While free agency doesn't begin until March 13, Edwards is free to sign now since he didn't end the season on an NFL roster.

Edwards, a third-round pick in 2007, started 32 games for the Bills from 2007-10 and went 14-18. He signed with the Raiders last season, but failed to make the team.

Young, who backed up Mike Vick this past season, will be a free agent after the Super Bowl and the Eagles aren't likely to re-sign him. Young went 1-2 as the starter in 2011, while throwing nine interceptions against four touchdowns.

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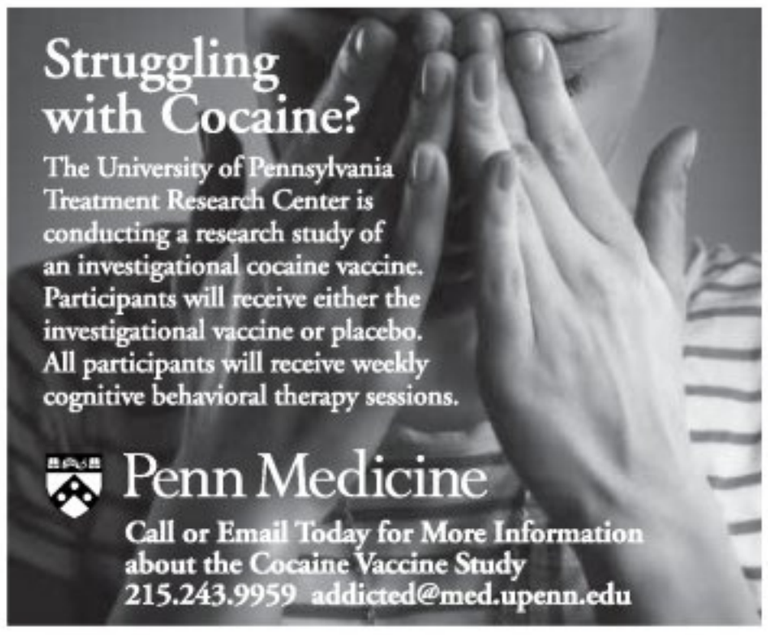

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